

VI.—Description of a new Lizard of the Genus *Nucras* from Usoga, British East Africa. By OSCAR NEUMANN.

Nucras Boulengeri.

Body elongate; head not depressed, its length (to ear-opening) contained $4\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 times in the length from snout to vent; two postnasals; no granules between the supraoculars and the supraoculars; interparietal not so long and narrow as in *N. tessellata* and *N. Delalandii*; occipital very small; subocular bordering the lip between the fourth and fifth upper labials; two supratemporals bordering the parietal; tympanum half as large as the ear-opening. Dorsal scales small, pointed behind, larger on the sides of the body; 45 to 53 scales round the body; ventrals in 6 longitudinal and 27 to 30 transverse series. Femoral pores 11 or 12. Foot much shorter than the head. Tail thinner than in *N. tessellata* and *N. Delalandii*, $1\frac{1}{4}$ to $1\frac{1}{3}$ as long as head and body. Colour brown above, with small indistinct blackish spots; bluish white beneath.

This seems to be a much smaller species than the two previously known; its principal distinctive characters reside in the rather large tympanum, the pointed dorsal scales, and the small foot.

Two specimens were collected by me at Lubwas (Usoga) in September 1894.

VII.—On the Genus *Lycodes*. By Prof. F. A. SMITT.

THE genus *Lycodes* has, in recent times, given very much trouble to the ichthyologist; and, in the first place, the usual manner of defining the species by the colouring of the body has failed to give any systematic certainty. Thus, when writing the 'Scandinavian Fishes,' although I had very poor material for comparison, I was struck* by the apparent identity of *Lycodes reticulatus*, in Günther's "Deep-sea Fishes of 'Challenger' Expedition," with *Lycodes frigidus*, Collett, which I knew from one of the author's type specimens, and I expressed my suspicion that the "species" *frigidus* was a mixture of sterile and more or less deformed specimens of two other species. And as it was impossible to find any constant characteristics, either in nature or in the descriptions

* Smitt, Scand. Fish. p. 610.